

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 31 Nov 1951

SUBJECT Antiaircraft Artillery
Site at Ohrdruf

NO. OF PAGES 2 50X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1

DATE OF INFORMATION

50X1

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1. The antiaircraft artillery site at Ohrdruf (5049N - 1044E) was located about 3½ kilometers west of the center of Ohrdruf, and 300 meters northwest of a sports stadium used by Soviet troops. The stadium, which was a regular soccer field, was covered with sand and lined with trees. Dirt roads lead north, west and south from the stadium. A lake, about 75 meters in diameter, was located about half-way between the stadium and the AAA site. The general area

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DRM NO. 51-40
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was level, and sodded on the north and the west sides of the stadium. Truck farms were located east of the stadium. The barracks used by the area of the 39th Soviet Rifle Division were located about 100 meters to the south of the stadium. Most of these buildings were two stories high and constructed of brick. [redacted] they were formerly occupied by troops of General Von Paulus' Army. There also was a laundry plant in this area which was two stories high, constructed of brick, with a gabled tile roof and a brick smoke stack.

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2. [redacted] antiaircraft guns used by the 39th Guards Rifle Division [redacted] had long barrels, usually elevated at a 45° angle. The guns traversed 360° on the horizontal plane and 90° on the vertical plane. The gun barrels did not have any enlargements such as flash hiders or muzzle brakes. They were installed on four wheel carriages which were pulled by Studebaker trucks. [redacted] there were about 40 AA guns arranged in two straight rows, in a north-south direction. The distance between the rows was about 150 meters. Each gun was dug into the ground but there were no concrete emplacements. The space between each gun was about 90 meters. Halfway between every two guns, and in the same line, was an AA machine gun on a tripod. These guns were single barreled. [redacted]
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3. [redacted] in the AA gun area there were three wooden poles, about the height of a telephone pole, arranged in a straight row with approximately 30 meter intervals between them. There was one wire connected to the top of the poles which lead to a dugout about 20 meters from the last pole. I am sure that these were the only masts in the area. There were no electrical insulators for wire attachments. The wire ended on one mast; the end section of wire, rising vertically, was about 20 cm long.
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4. The vehicles which were used with the AA guns and the machine guns were arranged in two rows about 100 meters south of the gun site. The trucks were covered with tarpaulins and the cabs and engine section were camouflaged with branches.
5. Soviet aircraft which flew over this site identified themselves by firing either one green or one red flare. During one day only one type of color flare was used for signaling; only one flare was fired by individual or formation aircraft.

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